

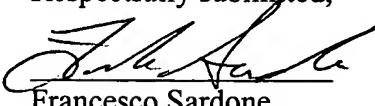
Claims 22, 23, 25-27 and 29-43 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obvious-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-28 of U.S. Patent No. 6,592,593 to Parodi et al. Upon information and belief, the present application and U.S. Patent 6,592,593 to Parodi et al. are commonly owned. As such, Applicants submit herewith an appropriate terminal disclaimer in order to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Terminal Disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) of \$130.00 to Deposit Account No.: 21-0550. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

In view of the submission of the terminal disclaimer herewith Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of the claims in the present Office Action has been overcome.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview may still be necessary to further facilitate prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number indicated below.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 22, 23, 25-27 and 29-43 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
By: 
Francesco Sardone
Reg. No.: 47,918
Attorney for Applicants

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP
445 Broad Hollow Road – Suite 225
Melville, NY 11747
Telephone: (631) 501-5700
Facsimile: (631) 501-3526
FS/nr